

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Galveston County

Texas · Galveston · FIPS 48167 · Population 350,801 ·
Crosodo Index #879*

STATE BASELINE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.; no license/registration required; no inspection;
\$150,000 annual sales cap

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Great	150000	MEDIUM	2026-05-05

IMPORTANT – NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

TEXAS: GALVESTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #879* · FIPS 48167 · Galveston

Galveston County

Population 350,801 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.; no license/registration required; no inspection; \$150,000 annual sales cap · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (No TCS foods; required labeling disclaimer; no state license or inspection)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific requirement identified; City of Galveston and other municipalities may have home occupation zoning requirements)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Complaint-based only)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — No TCS foods; required labeling disclaimer; no state license or inspection
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Sanitary storage conditions required

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Complaint-based only
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific requirement identified; City of Galveston and other municipalities may have home occupation zoning requirements
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer and indirect to retailers; \$150,000 annual cap
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Same TX state baseline applies. No Galveston County-specific cottage food overlay found. Barrier islands jurisdiction (City of Galveston) may have additional zoning restrictions not researched.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.galvestoncountytexas.gov>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county's specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/texas/galveston-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Galveston County	Brazoria County	Harris County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	No specific state restriction in cottage food law.	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to consumer and indirect to retailers; \$150,000 annual cap	Direct-to-consumer and some indirect sales. Online and mail delivery permitted. SB 541 (2025) added 'cottage food vendor' intermediary path...	State law allows direct sales, indirect sales (to restaurants and retailers), and online/delivery sales. No county-level restriction. Texas...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	No TCS foods; required labeling disclaimer; no state license or inspection	Texas cottage food law (Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.) requires no license, permit, or registration. No state inspection. Annual gr...	Harris County has no county-level zoning in its unincorporated areas, meaning no county zoning ordinance applies to home-based cottage food...
FOOD STORAGE	Sanitary storage conditions required	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Acidified and fermented foods allowed.	State baseline applies
POPULATION	350,801	374,600	4,726,177

State context — Texas cottage food law

Galveston County’s rules sit on top of Texas’s state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.	ANNUAL SALES CAP 150000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED No	FOOD HANDLER CERT No
KITCHEN INSPECTION No	DIRECT SALES ONLY No

INDIRECT SALES
 Limited (see notes) — Sales must be made directly to consumers or to a 'cottage food vendor' (a new category created by SB 541 in 2025 – a person with a contractual relationship who sells on behalf of the cottage food operation to consumers in-state). Cottage food products may not be sold as ingredients to a food service establishment. No retail grocery store or wholesale sales permitted under the pre-2025 framework; SB 541 (2025) adds the cottage food vendor intermediary option. Products must be delivered to consumer or vendor at point of sale or consumer-designated location.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Texas cottage food law report](#).

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

- State statute: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>
 - State dept cottage food page: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>
 - Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/texas/>
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Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Galveston County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/texas/galveston-county-discuss>
